

Read Michigan! 2002

A Michigan Week

Tradition Since 1994



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Read Michigan! 2002

by Kim Laird, Technical Services

One way to celebrate during Michigan Week, May 18-27, is to participate in Read Michigan! Do a display of Michigan books. Have a book group read a book by a Michigan author or about Michigan. The following 2001 books were selected as Read Michigan titles, either about Michigan or by Michigan authors.

Adopted By An Owl: The True Story of Jackson, the Owl, by Robbyn Smith Van Frankenhuyzen. Illustrated By Gijsbert Van Frankenhuyzen. Sleeping Bear Press. Vividly illustrated, this children's story portrays a family who adopts and cares for an owl until he is strong enough to be released back into the wild.

Angels in the Architecture: A Photographic Elegy to an American Asylum, by Heidi Johnson. Wayne State University Press. A photographic history of the Northern Michigan Asylum located in Traverse City, supported by recollections of former patients and staff members. An architectural jewel that permanently closed in 1989, the facility treated more than 50,000 patients since its founding in 1885.

Before Motown: A History of Jazz in Detroit, 1920-60, by Lars Bjorn. University of Michigan Press. This book traces Detroit's impact on the history of American jazz before the city became world renowned for the Motown sound. Full of insightful interviews with many of the musicians themselves, the book also places Detroit's jazz scene within its social context, as the city became increasingly divided by race.

Custer and the Little Bighorn: The Man, the Mystery, the Myth, by Jim Donovan. Voyageur Press. A plethora of photographs, paintings, and maps complement this new biography of the famous Michigan Civil War General.

Detroit Biography Series for Young Readers (series). Wayne State University Press. This series for young readers features biographies of individuals who have impacted the history of the Detroit area. The series includes:

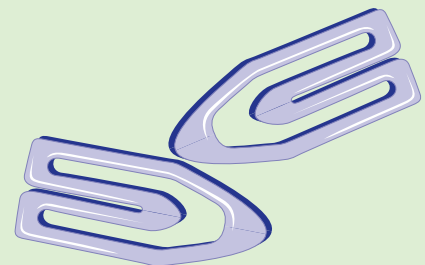
- * ***Albert Kahn: Builder of Detroit***
- * ***First Lady Of Detroit: The Story Of Marie-Therese Guyon, Mme. Cadillac***
- * ***Reuther Brothers: Walter, Roy and Victor***
- * ***Willie Horton: Detroit's Own Willie the Wonder***

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Titles & Authors

Read Michigan!

Detroit Then And Now, by Cheri Y. Gay. Thunder Bay Press. This collection of photos dramatically pairs black-and-white historic photographs with a color image of the same scene, as it exists today. View the Detroit of yesterday and today, with such notable landmarks as old City Hall, Saint Anne's Church, and the Michigan Central Railroad Station.

Discovering the Peoples of Michigan (series). Michigan State University Press. This ongoing series studies the multicultural history of Michigan. Each book examines an ethnic group, their history in the state and the many challenges that they face today. The series includes:

* ***African Americans in Michigan***

* ***French Canadians in Michigan***

* ***Albanians in Michigan***

* ***Italians in Michigan***

* ***Amish in Michigan***

* ***Jews in Michigan***

* ***Ethnicity in Michigan***

The Final Season: Fathers, Sons, and One Last Season in a Classic American Ballpark, by Tom Stanton. Thomas Dunne Books. Attending every 1999 home game during the final season at Tiger Stadium, the author reflects on the Detroit of his youth, his childhood and family, and how the ballpark helped bring all of these things together. Encounters with Al Kaline, Ernie Harwell, Elmore Leonard, and fans and stadium ushers all shed insight into the continuing magical allure of "The Corner."

Frontier Metropolis: Picturing Early Detroit, 1701-1838, by Brian Leigh Dunnigan. Wayne State University Press. Using rare maps, portraits and sketches, the book traces Detroit's early history from the city's founding to the introduction of photography. Engaging the reader, these images vividly illustrate the history of the emerging city and the lives of its early residents.

Girl in Blue, by Ann Rinaldi. Scholastic. A fictitious Civil War adventure in which 16-year old Sarah Wheelock enlists in the 2nd Michigan Infantry regiment disguised as Neddy Compton. She serves as a male nurse and later works as a Union spy.

Historic Cottages of Mackinac Island, by Susan Stites and Lea Ann Sterling. Photography by Lanny Sterling And Lea Ann Sterling. Arbutus Press. A pictorial look at seventy-three cottages, including the Governor's residence, that were constructed on Mackinac Island between 1870 and 1910. Color photographs of the cottages as they look today complement the written histories of the homes and their owners.

Idlewild: The Black Eden of Michigan, by Ronald J. Stephens. Images of America (series). Arcadia Publishing. This photographic compilation explores the history of the African-American resort community in Lake County, Michigan. The Images of America series also examines the photographic record of other Michigan communities, including Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Detroit, St. Clair Shores and Marquette.

In Harm's Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of its Survivors, by Doug Stanton. Henry Holt. Soon after delivering parts of the atomic bomb to be used on Hiroshima, the USS Indianapolis was sunk by the Japanese. The survivors, including Michigan resident Dr. Lewis Haynes, drifted aimlessly in the Pacific Ocean for five days, fighting off shark attacks and hypothermia, before being rescued by the U.S. Navy.

Books About Michigan

Michigan Authors

Leonardo's Horse, by Jean Fritz. Illustrated by Hudson Talbott. G.P. Putnam's Sons. See the story behind the American Horse at the Frederik Meijer Gardens in this children's book. An artistic idea envisioned but never finished by Leonardo da Vinci, the horse was subsequently completed by a pair of American artists in 1999. One bronzed statue remains in Milan, Italy, and the other resides in Grand Rapids.

Michigan Remembered: Photographs From the Farm Security Administration and the Office of War Information, 1936-1943, edited by Constance B. Schulz. Wayne State University Press. An interesting collection of 150 photographs of Michigan during the Depression and World War II from the collections of the Library of Congress. The photographs depict urban and rural landscapes from across the state, Michigan on the home front, and other representative images from both the Upper and Lower Peninsulas.

Our Hometown: America's History, As Seen Through the Eyes of a Midwestern Village, by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds. Sleeping Bear Press. This history of Chelsea, from its founding in 1834 through the present, illustrates that the town is reflective of the American experience. Full of vintage photographs, the book explores the village's local businesses, famous personalities, contributions to the Second World War and much more.

Ruin and Recovery: Michigan's Rise as a Conservation Leader, by Dave Dempsey. University of Michigan Press. An environmental history of Michigan, this book focuses on two public conservation efforts that helped put Michigan in the national spotlight. The first developed in the late nineteenth century in response to the excesses of the lumber industry, and the second grew from the push to clean the state's air and water in the 1960s and 1970s.

Schooners, Skiffs & Steamships: Stories Along Lake Superior's Water Trails, by Howard Sivertson. Lake Superior Port Cities. A wonderful collection of artistic paintings and companion stories from the Lake Superior region. The paintings illustrate the importance of the Great Lakes and their waterways to the settlement and development of the entire region.

Stories From My Life in Baseball, by Ernie Harwell. Detroit Free Press. Stories and recollections from the Hall of Fame radio broadcaster for the Detroit Tigers.

Traver on Fishing: A Treasury of Robert Traver's Finest Stories and Essays About Fishing for Trout, by Robert Traver. Edited by Nick Lyons. Lyons Press. A collection of writing by the late famous Michigan author, in which he reflects on fishing with colorful tales and anecdotes set in the Upper Peninsula.

The first priority for the Read Michigan! 2002 committee was to emphasize recently published books that reflected the diverse history and culture of the state of Michigan. Strong preference was given to those titles that were both set in Michigan and were written by a Michigan author. Our second priority was to select books displaying a wide range of topics and issues important to Michigan residents. Preference was given to books with high visual impact, high quality writing and wide public appeal. Finally, since there were quite a few high quality titles in the same specific topic areas, we had the difficult task of limiting the number of titles chosen in the same subject area and limiting the number of titles chosen for specific reading levels. Members of the committee included Kim Laird, Kris Rzepczynski and Karrie Waarala of the Library of Michigan. Representatives from the co-sponsors, Great Lakes Booksellers Association and the Historical Society of Michigan also had valuable input and suggestions for the list.

Michigan Center for the Book

What is the Michigan Center for the Book???

by Karren Reish, Michigan Center for the Book

The Michigan Center for the Book is a program of the Library of Michigan that promotes books as an art form and as the conveyors of the written word. The program works to stimulate interest in reading, libraries, the book arts, publishing and authorship. The center does this by promoting the educational and cultural role of the book, authors, writing, reading and libraries. We feel the future of the book, especially as it relates to new technologies and to other media, is important and needs a broad and deep focus from institutions of the book world, especially libraries.

The Michigan Center for the Book was established at Wayne State University in 1986 and was formally chartered as the Michigan affiliate of the National Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. The national center started in 1977 to encourage Americans to rediscover the joys of books and reading. States are encouraged to have their own center to work for books at the state level. As of 2002, 46 states do.

In the past, the Michigan Center for the Book has sponsored exhibits, book events, contests, author events, publications and awards. We started off with the "Nation of Readers" exhibit that traveled throughout the state in 1986 and 1987. The "Michigan Collects!" program recognized local collections by students and the public at the Detroit Public Library, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University. The national "Letters about Literature" contest encouraged elementary and secondary students to write to their favorite author. In 1996, over 800 students sent letters and four won prizes. The "Meeting Michigan Authors" lecture series brought Michigan authors to speak in libraries throughout the state. We published the Portraits of Literary Michigan poster in 1994. The Michigan Author Award, started by the Thunder Bay Literary Conference in 1992, is now sponsored by the Center for the Book and the Michigan Library Association.

Currently, we continue to sponsor the Michigan Author Award. For those wanting to nominate an author for the 2002 Award, you can use the form at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfbmiauthor.html>. We are also in our second year of an exciting new Literary Landmark program. In conjunction with Friends of Libraries, USA, we are identifying historically and culturally important literary areas. Dudley Randall, the Detroit poet, publisher and librarian, was honored at the McNichols Library at the University of Detroit Mercy. On June 29, 2002, we will be honoring former Michigan Supreme Court Justice John Voelker, who wrote as Robert Traver and is best known for "*Anatomy of a Murder*." We are also working with the Michigan Association of Media in Education to develop a comprehensive Michigan Authors & Illustrators database that will include biographical information, lists of writings by and about the authors, and speaking engagement information. This free database will be launched later this year.

Both the remembrance of our literary past and the possibilities of our literary future are fundamental to Michigan libraries. Encouraging interest in books and the publishing arts is our trade and our passion.

Web Sites of Interest:

Michigan Center for the Book	http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfb.html
Center for the Book	http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/
Michigan Author Award Winners	http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us/services/mcfbauthoraward.html